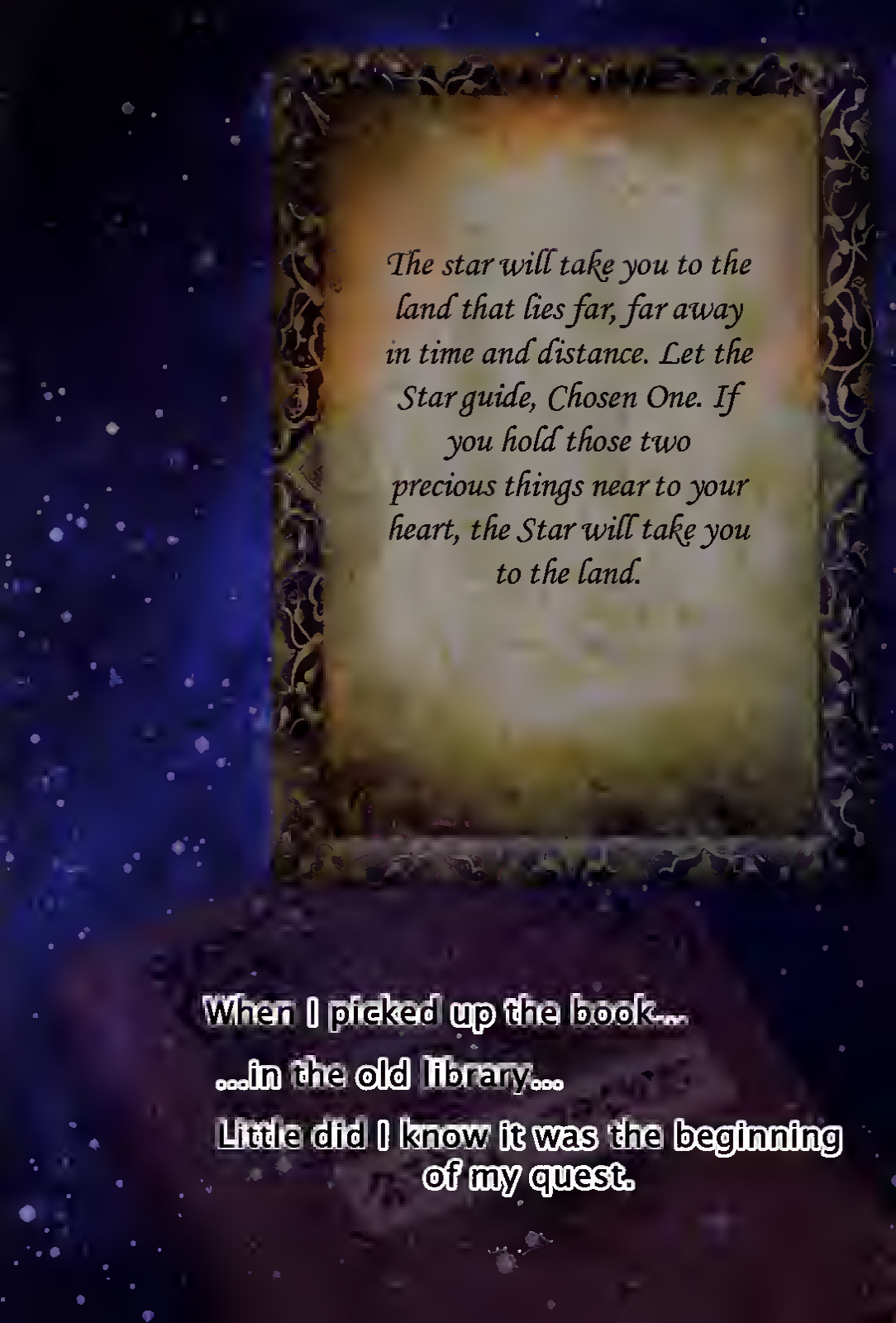
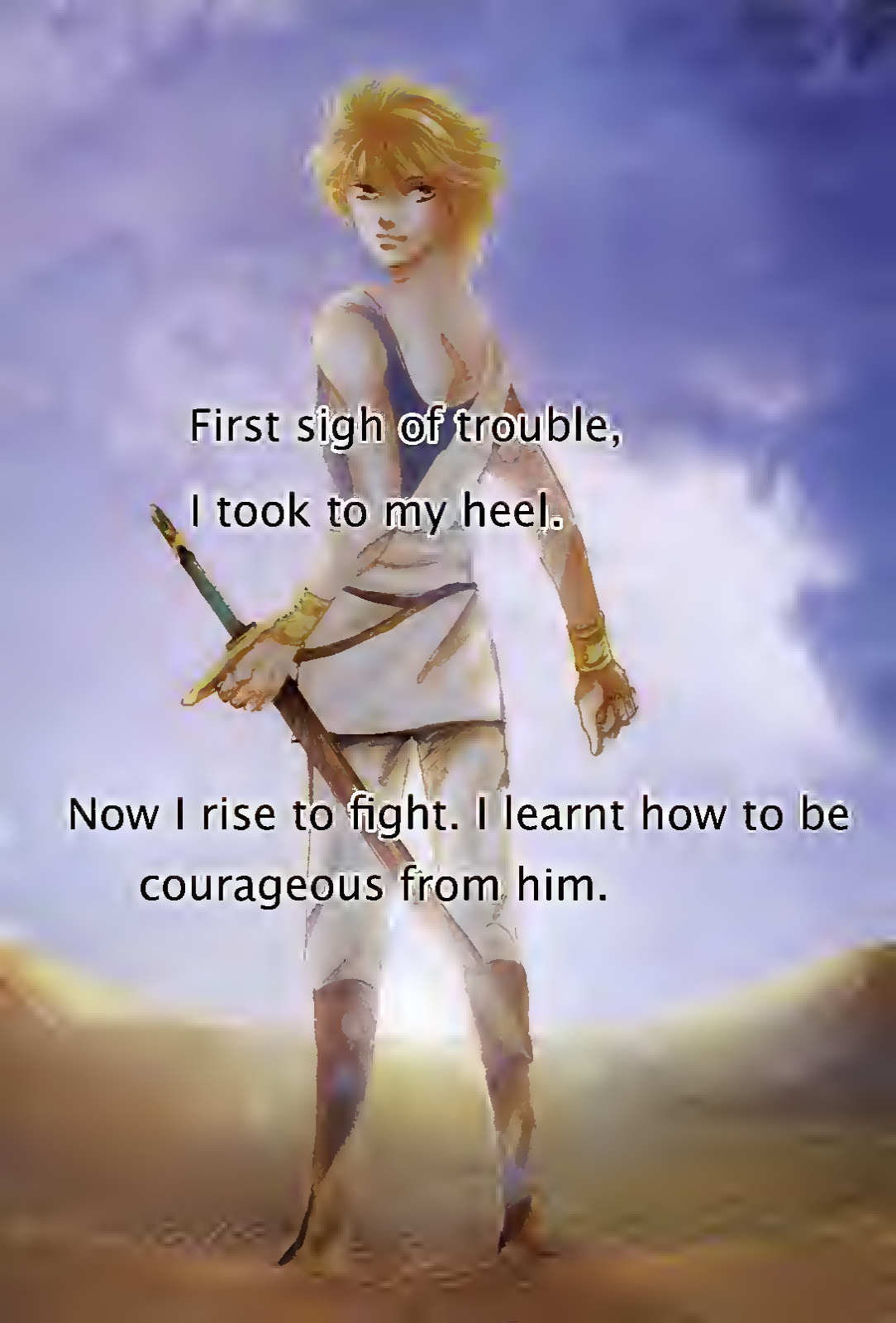
The Legend in Annatour

2

Mito Orihara


The star will take you to the land that lies far, far away in time and distance. Let the Star guide, Chosen One. If you hold those two precious things near to your heart, the Star will take you to the land.
When I picked up the book...
...in the old library...
Little did I know it was the beginning of my quest.

The Legend in Annatour Chapter One
The Golden Virdia

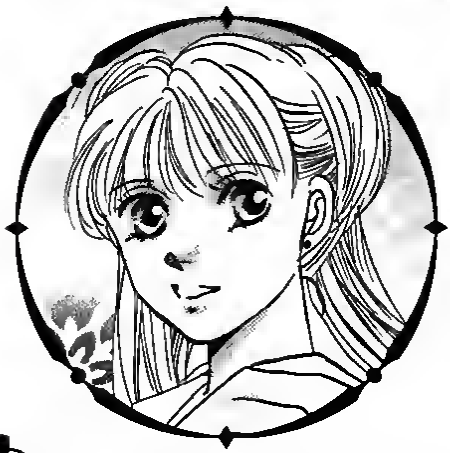

First sigh of trouble,
I took to my heel.
Now I rise to fight. I learnt how to be courageous from him.

The Legend in Annatour

THE LEGEND IN ANNATOUR VOL.2

Characters

Shura Sadeen: The Golden Virdia as prophesied in the Legend of Annatour in which Romaira recorded his prophesies. The Prince of the desert kingdom Esfahan. His father was assassinated by Muzaharu.

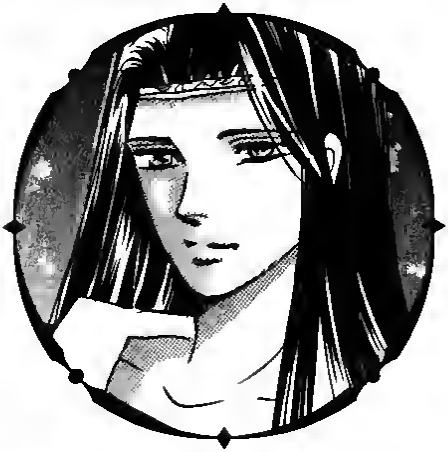


Yuina Suzuki (Yuna): The Silver Meshina, as prophesied in the Legend of Annatour in which Romaira recorded his prophesies. She's a normal high school student until one day she is chosen as the savior of the desert.

Previously: Yuna feels lost at home and at school after failing to getting into the high school of her choice. One day she stumbles upon a book in the old library. The Legend in Annatour takes Yuna into another realm— Annatour. Prince Shura saves Yuna as she's stranded in the desert and tells her that she is "the Silver Meshina" whose mission is to save the desert. Yuna struggles to adjust to the life in Esfahan where death and injury is a regular occurrence. With support from Prince Shura, Yuna overcomes her fear and decides to join the fight. Soon Yuna develops feelings for Prince Shura. And then Prince Shura is attacked by Muzaharu's assassins...

Rita and Maruta : Yuna's maids. They look up to Yuna. From the left, Rita and Maruta.

Alshe Lacid: The first retainer of Prince Shura. A descendent of Romaira and the only person who can interpret the Legend in Annatour.



Nadeel Sulfan: Captain of the Border Guard units. He grew up with Prince Shura. He's opposed to Yuna being Prince Shura's fiancé.

Salem Read: Prince Shura's confidant and a member of the Court Guard. He teaches Yuna how to use a sword.

Saya Makihara: Yuna's best friend. She was born to a family of doctors but aspires to become an author.

King Muzaharu: King of Muradabird who assassinated Prince Shura's father. A power-hungry man.

CONTENTS

THE LEGEND IN ANNATOUR

The Legend in Annatour Chapter

The Golden Virdia

The Legend in Annatour Chapter 2

The Shilver Meshina

Prince!!
Prince Shura!!
ZSH
!!

Finish him!!
Muzaharu's assassins!
We can't return to the King without his head!
Stay away from him!!
No!!
Move!! Out of the way!!
No!!

Prince Shura!!
Go away!!
Lady Yuna!
What happe-ned?!
!!
Nooo
Intru-ders ...!
Prince Shura!!
We have intruders! Some-body!!
Shut them up!
!!

THUD
Maruta, Rita!!
What?
You and your maids are safe.
Don't worry, Meshina.
Muzaharu...
Don't...
Hey, look...!
We have to bring you back alive.
That's the order.

Horses!
They're Esfahan's soldiers!
Don't kill him!!
I think we should finish him.
Get the Meshina. Let's get out of here!
We've got com-pany.
He's already dead.
Nah.
The venom's effect is instant. Let it do its job.

Prin-
ce!!
Lady
Yuna!!
WHIIIN...
!!
Prince
Shura!!
He's already
dead...

We were late!! Muzaharu's assassins got to him...!
Prince!
Alshe, they took Lady Yuna!!
Is he okay?!
Alshe...

The Palace of Muradabird
Prince Shura is dead?!
Are you sure?!
Yes, your Majesty! We're certain.

He can't be dead...!

He's not breathing...
Prince...?
No... not our Virdia...
Prince... Prince Shura!

He can't be dead...!
He's not brea-thing...
Prince ...?
No... not our Virdia...
Prince... Prince Shura!

The Palace of Muradabird
Prince Shura is dead?!
Are you sure?!
Yes, your Majesty! We're certain.

I don't see his head.
Well...
We were spotted by Esfahan's soldiers before we had the chance. We had to leave him there.
What?!
Then how do we know he'd really dead?!!
With all due respect ...
The arrow was poisoned with fruit of Dahli. We saw it penetrate his body.
There is no way he's alive!
What about the Meshina?
We've got her.
The poison of Dahli, eh?
Then he didn't stand a chance.
We had to sedate her so she wouldn't fight.
She's in the cell.

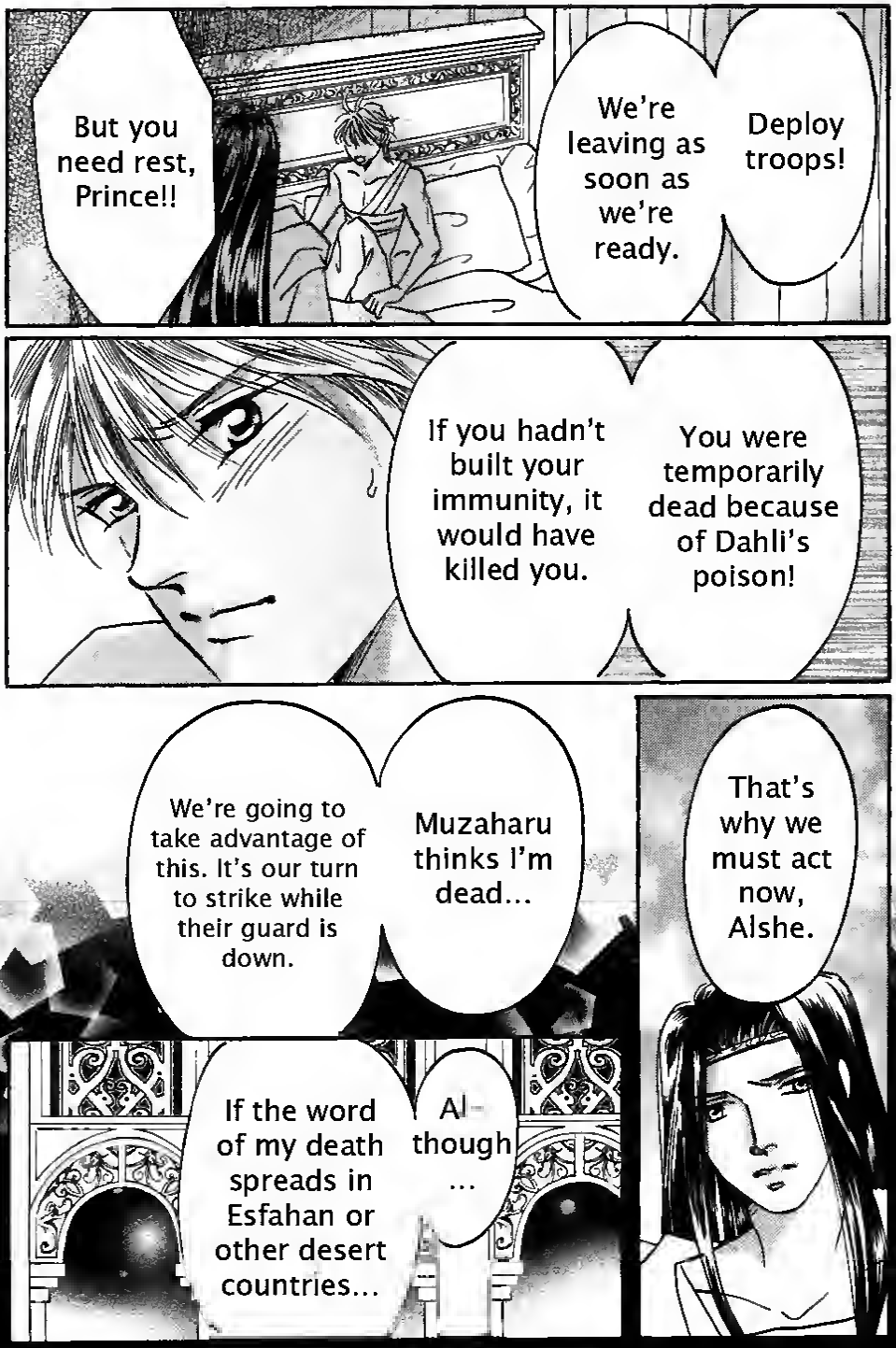
We will not stop until I rule the desert!!
Prince Shura, who held the future of Esfahan, is now dead.
The guardian of the desert is in our hands.
It is only a matter of time before the fall of Esfahan.
Prince Shura is dead! Count down to the toppling of Esfahan!
Let's cerebrate tomorrow's victory!!
Booze!
First we take control of Esfahan...
...and then continue to other countries.

Father!!
Father.
Where are you going?
Oh, how I wanted to see you, father.

The Silver Star...
The Star will show you the path. Follow the light.
Shura.
You are not meant to be here.
It's her...
Prince.
Prince.
Prince Shura!

Alshe.
Thanks god!
You're awake!
What happened to me?
You were ambushed by Muzaharu's assassins.
The poison arrow nearly killed you.
Muzaharu's assassins...!
Yuna ...
What about Yuna and Maruta?!
Tell me, Alshe!

Yuna...!!
Prince!
They took her along with Maruta and Rita.
They're being held in the Palace of Muzaharu.
How can I just stay in bed and do nothing!!
You need rest...
We're going to launch an attack on Muradabird!

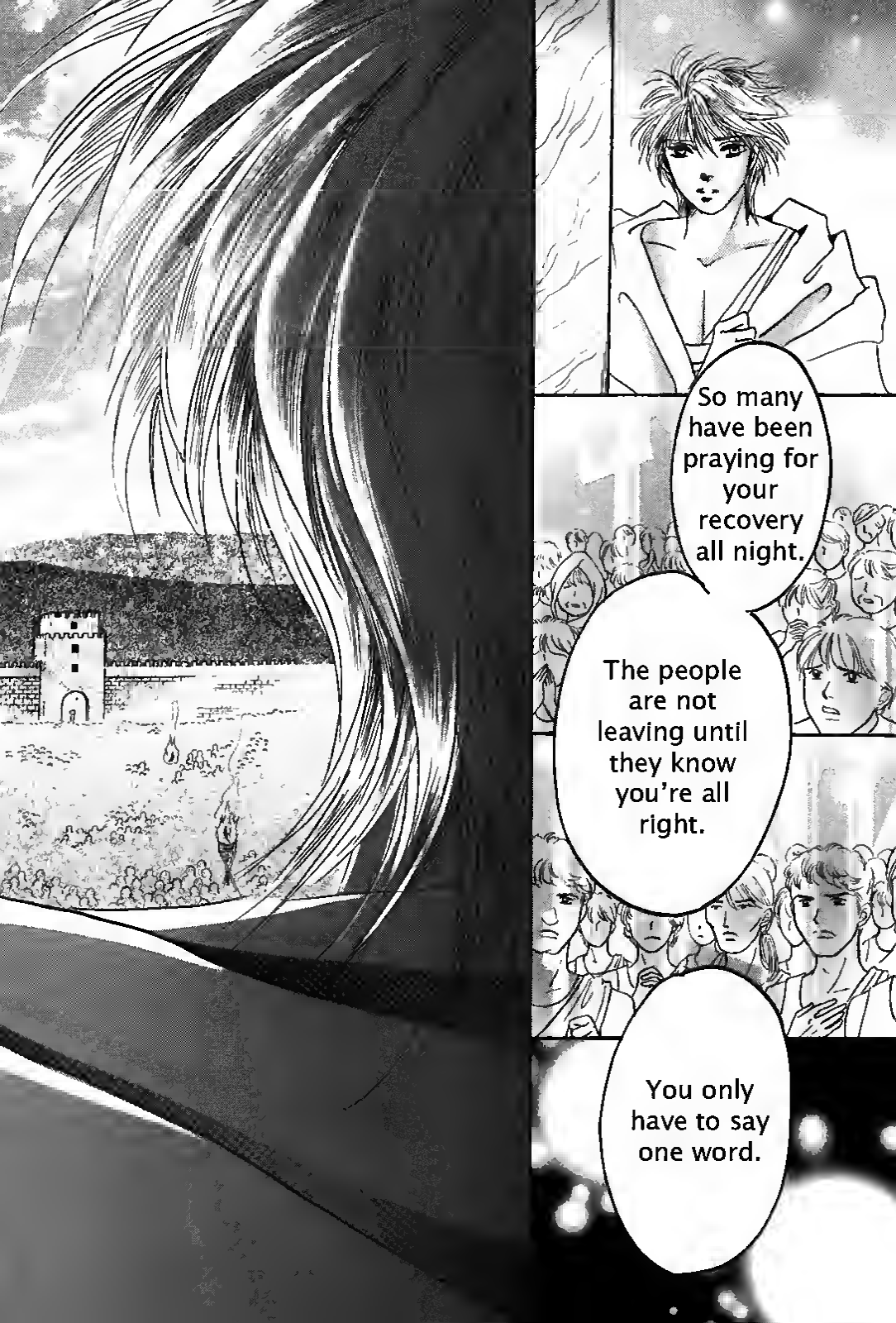

But you need rest, Prince!!
We're leaving as soon as we're ready.
Deploy troops!
If you hadn't built your immunity, it would have killed you.
You were temporarily dead because of Dahli's poison!
That's why we must act now, Alshe.
We're going to take advantage of this. It's our turn to strike while their guard is down.
Muzaharu thinks I'm dead...
If the word of my death spreads in Esfahan or other desert countries...
Although...

It makes Esfahan vulnerable to more attacks. Our allies may turn hostile again.
...our people will despair and lose hope.
An error that almost cost us everything we'd fought for, all the sacrifices we'd made.
What was I thinking, leaving the palace so close to the coronation? I drew attention to myself. It was my judgment of error.
Now it's time to make up for it!

The soldiers are primed and ready.
We were going to attack Muradabird after the coronation anyway.
It requires extraordinary mental strength.
Prince...
Let them think I'm dead. Muzaharu is in for a big surprise.
He's brimming with so much power, so much energy.
He's so resilient. He's back even stronger.
A regular man won't be able to move a muscle.

Prin-
ce.
Look out the window.
The crowd is growing by the second. Not just the soldiers, people from all over the country.
They came as soon as they heard you took a fall.
This is the Virdia at his finest!!

Esfahan's soldiers are ready any time.
Wait for me, Yuna.
So many have been praying for your recovery all night.
The people are not leaving until they know you're all right.
You only have to say one word.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Esfahan's soldiers are ready any time.
Wait for me, Yuna.

Lady Yuna.
Wake up, Lady Yuna.
Oh...?
Lady Yuna!!
...Muzaharu will be defeated and you will be rescued!!
By the time the Sun is...
...high in the sky over the desert...

...Muzaharu will be defeated and you will be rescued!!
By the time the Sun is...
...high in the sky over the desert...

Lady Yuna.
Wake up, Lady Yuna.
Oh...?
Lady Yuna!!

Oh, we're so glad you regained consciousness.
You've been out cold for hours. You had us worried.
Maruta, Rita...
We're being held captives in Murad-abird. Their assassins took us here.
Where are we?
Is he all right?
What happened to Prince?!
Tell me, Maruta! Rita!
Where's Prince?
!!

Prince...
Tell me it was a dream!
He's already dead.
WAAAH
He stood no chance!!
No...
The arrow he took...It was coated with the venom of Dahli's fruit!
One shot is strong enough to kill a black panther! There's no way Prince survived...
Someone tell me it's a bad dream!!

Prince Shura is dead...
A whole day has passed since the attack at the Saharu Lake.
Muzaharu is dispatching troops to Esfahan tomorrow.
They mean to keep us alive as leverage.
If they have the Meshina, Esfahan can't counter-attack.

It's my fault.
If I hadn't cried...
...he wouldn't have been vulnerable to the attack.
KA-CHIK
I caused this. I gave them the chance they'd been waiting for.
Maruta, Rita...

Lady Yuna.
A ring...
What are you doing?
What is that...?
!?
We're going to kill ourselves.
We choose death over humiliation under the hands of enemies.
The Esfahanien are a very prideful race.
What are you talking about?! No!
What, kill yourselves?
And for the desert without its king.
It's the end for us.
The Esfahan's Army is lost without Prince Shura's leadership. There is no hope of victory.
The ring has poison hidden inside for times like this.

No!!
Lady Yuna, we hoped to serve you until the end...
Or we can wait for the Muradabird soldiers to defile us.
PLOK
Oh, there goes the poison ...!!
GRAB
Stop!!
He will never give up no matter how grave the situation!!
Prince Shura would never, ever allow it!!
That's the stupidest thing I've ever heard! Death won't solve anything!
That's right.
It's the worst choice you can make!!

Lady Yuna...?
Prince...
Mark my word. [refer to page 181, volume 1]
You're the Meshina. [refer to page 181, volume 1]
Prince...
...fight his way out of any predica-ment.
Prince Shura would...
Yuna.
I wouldn't have done it without you. [refer to page 179, volume 1]
I'm grateful for you. [refer to page 179, volume 1]

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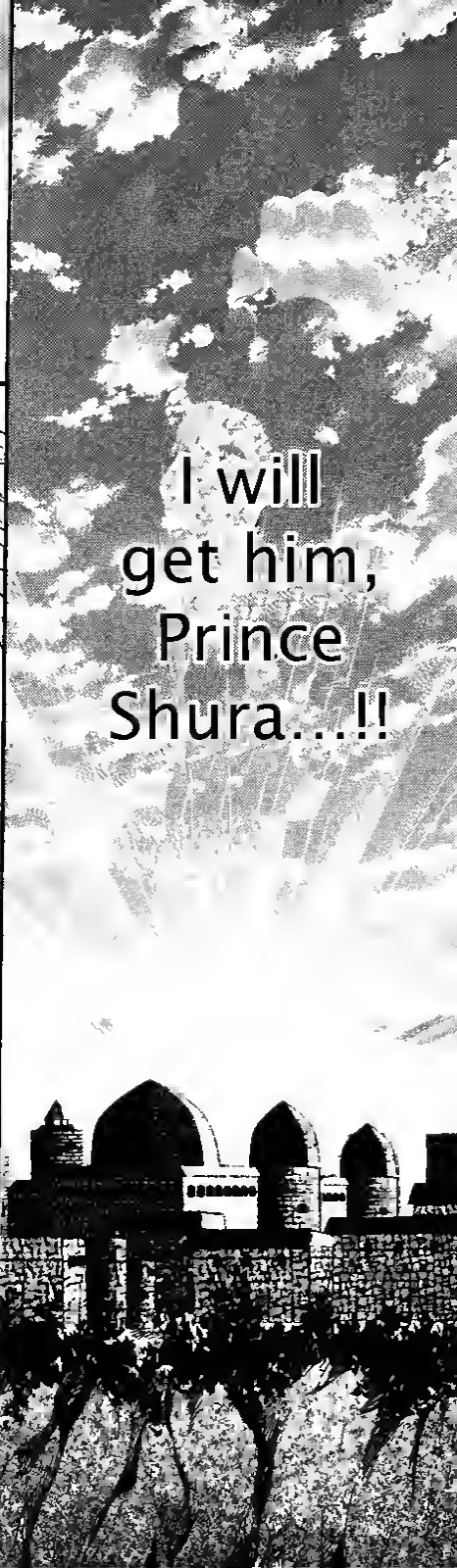
Prince...
Lady Yuna...?

Maruta, Rita.
Lady Yuna...
We will fight!
I know what to do.
Okay, Prince Shura.
We will defeat King Muza-haru and restore peace to the desert!

Lady Yuna...you sound like Prince Shura.
It's funny when you think about it.
I hold him close to my heart.
Yes.
...now in the desert, far away from where I live, swearing vengeance.
Me, a high school student from Japan...
If this plan doesn't go well...
...I can't return to my world.

CLANK
You're up!
King Muzaharu wants to talk to you.
Lady Yuna...


I will get him, Prince Shura...!!

It's time to face the man who took the prince's life.
The scheming bastard who killed the former King of Esfahan and...
...set the war in motion.
Here we go.
Muzaharu, here I come.
The Meshina is here.

That's the savior of the desert?
She's only a girl.

...okay.
So you're the Meshina of Esfahan, correct?
This man is King Muzaharu!
Not exactly what I'd imagined.
I thought you'd be more alluring.
Take a look at yourself, old man.
YIKES

The Meshina follows the destiny of the Star.
If the Star leads me to you, I shall devote myself to you from now on.
HMM
Correct me if I'm wrong but you serve Esfahan. You're their guardian.
It is an honor to meet the king who conquered the desert.
Exactly.
So you're willing to work for me?
MURMUR
おお
I'm at your service, your majesty.
And you're willing to fight against Esfahan with us?

Can I give your hand a kiss?
HMM... What is it?
As a show of loyalty...
King Muzaharu.
To wish you victory and glory.
Oh!
A blessing from the Meshina! That would seal the deal for me.
You may.
King!
I'll allow it! Now come closer.
I would be honored, Your Majesty.
He's got a sword ...!!!

Victory and glory to our King.
GRAB
And...
Death to you...!!

Don't move, you old goat!!

Seize them!! Some-one!!
ZSH
Wh-
What do you think you are doing?!
Stand back!!
Lady Yuna, don't worry about us.
Court ladies are trained to combat!
Maruta and Rita!!

Yes !!
Now bring the sword down on him...
Muza-haru...!!
...and put an end to the war once and for all!!

!?
Lady Yuna!
I can't move!
Every part of my body wants to do it.
I want to kill this blood- thirsty bastard who opened the door to the mayhem.
What are you waiting for?!!
I can't...
...?

How can I kill another human being even if he's vile and despicable?!!
FWASH
UGH
!!
PLOK
Lady Yuna!!

Lady Yuna!!
You thought you could outwit me?
We were going to use you as leverage against Esfahan. A little change of plan.
No!!
Looks like the table has turned. You're going to die, Meshina.

HUMPH
Why didn't you do it?
Fool.
He's right.
You can't prove your worth.
After all you're only a girl...
I'm sorry, Maruta, Rita.
I'm sorry, Prince...!!
Wouldn't it be fun if I stick your head at the end of our banner for your comrades to see?
It's not the Virdia's head but yours will do.

Even if...
it's some-one as vile as you.
You're wrong, King Muzaharu.
The Meshina of Esfahan respects others' lives.
What...?
What did you say...!?
A Murada-bird soldier?!

ZSH
Slay that traitor!!
Wow.
He snaps through each movement with such grace and precision.

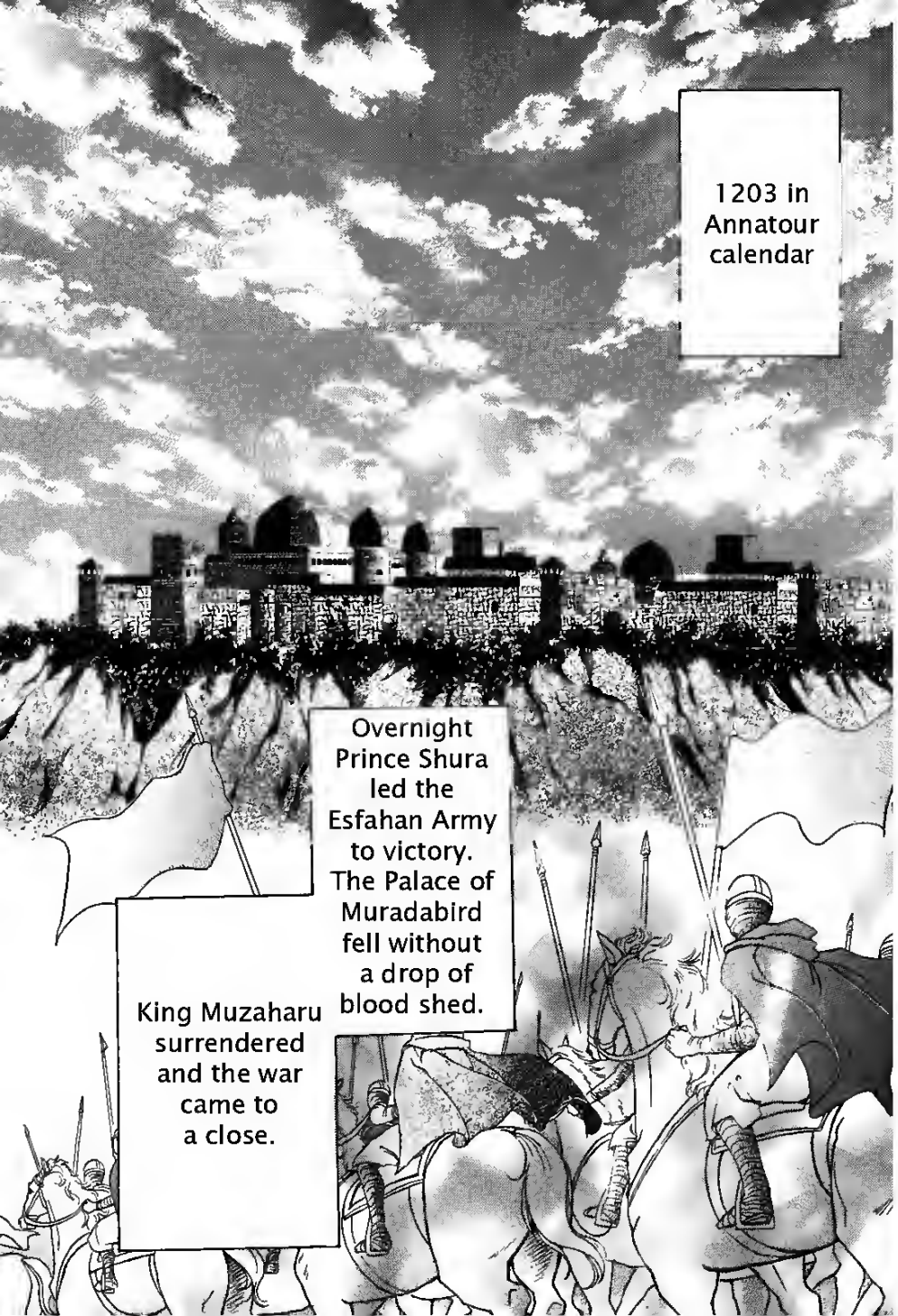
It sounds very familiar.
He attacks without inflicting any serious injuries.
And yet...
What do you think you're doing...?
An Esfahan soldier!

King Muza-haru!!
!?
What's going on...?!
Game over, King Muza-haru.

All the guards in the hall are on my side.
Look around you.
Show yourself!!
Wh-who are you?!
Who else can pull it off with absolute confi-dence...?
The voice, the delivery.
Yes, do that.
DA-BUMP
DA-BUMP
DA-BUMP

Prince
Shura...!

Somebody pinch me...
You–
How can that be? The poison killed you!
Well, your source is wrong. To be honest, I'm disappointed in you, Muzaharu
You didn't even doubt it. Actually you were so convinced you were already celebrating.
Lucky for us, it left the border wide open.
While you were busy with the victory feast, our forces reached the capital...
...and surrounded the Palace during the night.
All the garrison guards are down. They're my soldiers in disguise.


1203 in Annatour calendar
Overnight Prince Shura led the Esfahan Army to victory. The Palace of Muradabird fell without a drop of blood shed.
King Muzaharu surrendered and the war came to a close.

Surrender now, King Muzaharu, or there will be unnecessary bloodshed.

The palace is being surrounded by thousands of Esfahan's soldiers as we speak.
The allied forces will arrive any minute.
Things are looking bad for you, Muzaharu.

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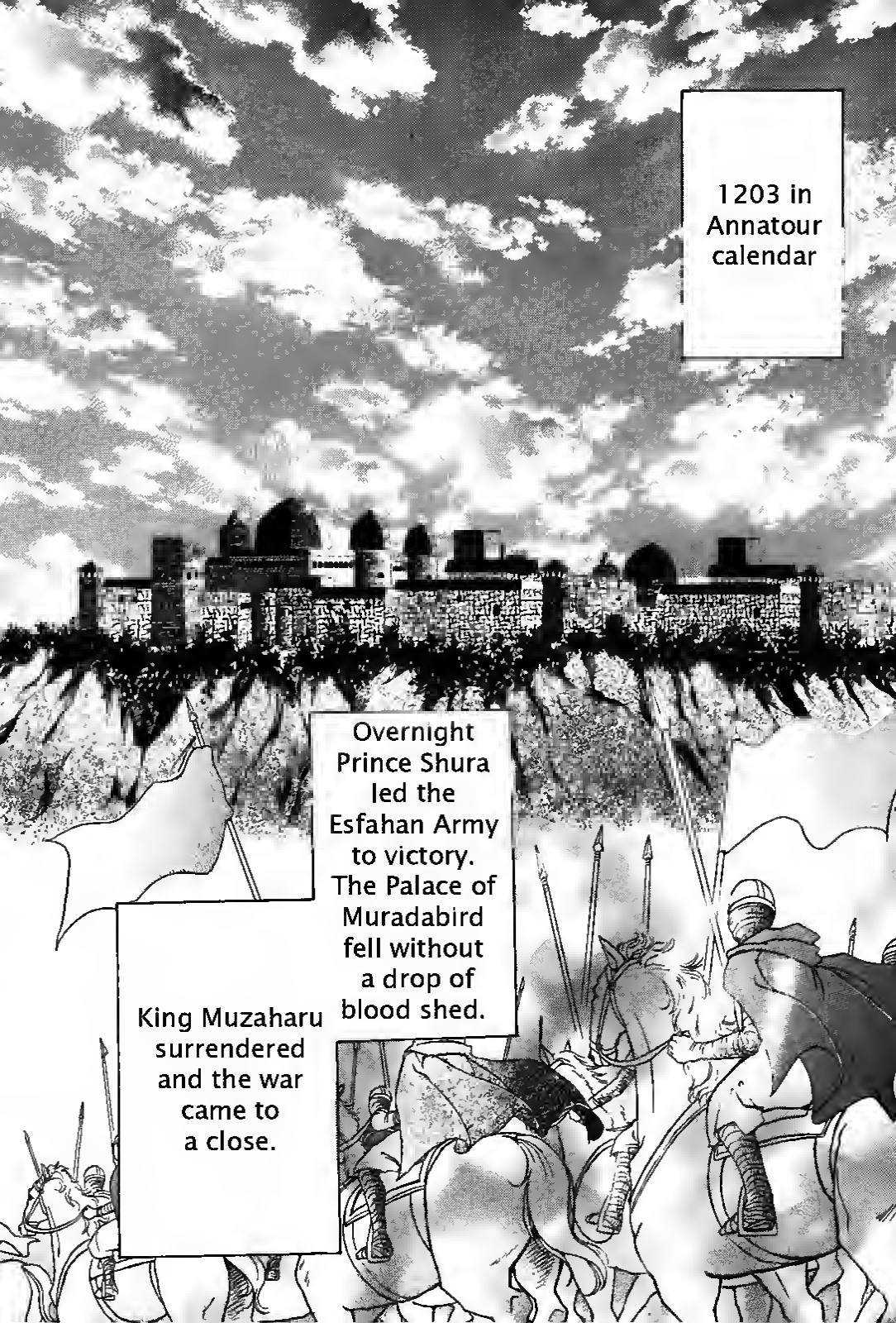
1203 in Annatour calendar
Overnight Prince Shura led the Esfahan Army to victory. The Palace of Muradabird fell without a drop of blood shed.
King Muzaharu surrendered and the war came to a close.

And...
What's wrong, Yuna?
You look as if you've seen a ghost.
But...
I thought I'd never see him again.

If I touch you, you might disappear.
It's not a dream? It feels like it is.
Try. Touch me.

Prince Shura!!
Our Virdia is back with the Meshina!!
You're alive...!!
Prince...
Warm to the touch...
Yes?
I'm here in the flesh.
Prince...

You're alive...!!
Prince...
Warm to the touch...
Yes?
I'm here in the flesh.
Prince...

Prince Shura!!
Our Virdia is back with the Meshina!!

SIGH
I can't still believe it.
This swift and precise approach becomes something of a legacy to be passed on as a miracle of the Virdia.
In the final battle, Esfahan brought Muradabird down without a drop of blood spilled.
Murada-bird laid down their arms!!
The war is over!!
The Virdia and the Meshina restored peace to the

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SIGH
I can't still believe it.
This swift and precise approach becomes something of a legacy to be passed on as a miracle of the Virdia.

I was momentorily dead, though!
HUMPH! Nothing I can't handle.
The usual one-liner.
I told you. My body's resistant to most poi-sons.
I knew about your immunity but...Are you really all right? How's the wound?
We all thought you were dead! Maruta and Rita, too!
Like everyone says, it's a miracle.
So much happened in so short a time. You broke through the border and advanced to the capital in one day.
Talk about being reckless.
But leading the army into another battle the next day you were poisoned?
Muradabird used to be a state in Esfahan.
Thirty years ago, the lord of the state rebelled to become independent.
It was a winning battle from the get-go.
It wasn't a "miracle."

Muradabird was originated in Esfahan.
There were quite a few who missed Esfahan's regime...
...as opposed to Muzaharu's rein of terror.
The people of Muradabird wanted out of the prolonged war as much as we did.
That's why we could easily cross into Muradabird.
Some of the soldiers happily switched sides.
And they chose you.
Muzaharu was driven by his desire and eventually lost trust of his people. His downfall had been a long time in the making.
His greed killed his empire in the end.
They chose the Virdia to be their King.
Not Muza-haru.
But my, oh, my.

I couldn't do anything though.
That's not true.
Oh, that...?
You beat me to it, Yuna.
My plan was to capture Muzaharu first and then rescue you.
The old goat? That was a good one.
Prince...
You really are something else.
Yuna.
I wanted to ask you about some-thing.

Prince, I...
At the lake. Before the attack.
Why were you crying?
I could tell him the truth but...
Well...
My mission was fulfilled. I will soon be sent back to my world.
When I heard the news of his death in the cell...
Then again.
Don't say it. It won't change anything for the better...
...a part of me died

That alone means a great deal.
Prince Shura.
Now the man I love is standing before me alive.
Tell him how I feel.
I love you.

But I can't stop the way I feel.
He's a prince.
We're worlds apart.
Yuna...
I just... wanted you to know before I go.
I will be gone as quickly as I came.
I don't expect a reply!

See you at the coronation.
Yuna...!
Good night!
PATTER PATTER
GASP

Alshe.
You did great, girl.
Prince Shura.
Still up?
Tomorrow we're going to have a meeting.
All senior members are required to attend.

WHEW
Look at the crowds! They're endless!
People are flocking from every part of the country!
Lady Yuna.
Are you really going to attend looking like that?!

There is something I need to say before the corona-tion.

Been a while.
This is how I look most of the time.
I was a normal high school student until the Star of Destiny brought me to this wonderland.
I still don't know why I was chosen for its plan...
What's wrong with my school uniform? It's as formal as it can get!
You can greet the Emperor, wearing this.
But, Lady Yuna.
It doesn't look appropriate for the Virdia's coronation, let alone you're the Meshina.
No prob-lem.

King Shura!!
Hail to King Shura Sadeen!!
A new King is born!!
None of it was possible without...
I was scared. I was confused. But I fought.
... people of this country.
... Prince Shura and...
By the name of our founder Rumaira, I bestow this gold ring upon you.
Shura Sadeen, I hereby declare you to be the 37th King of Esfahan.

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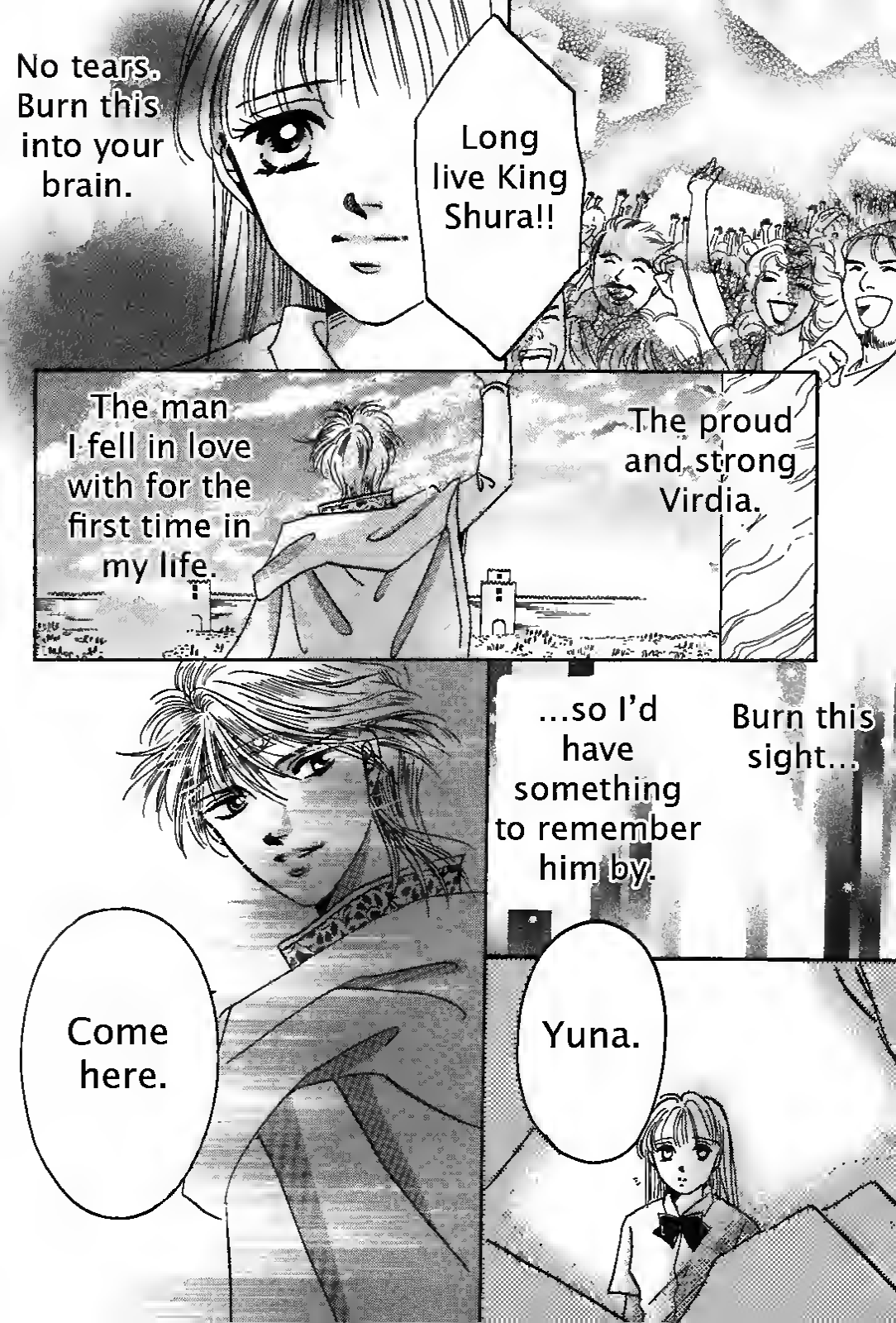
No tears. Burn this into your brain.
Long live King Shura!!
The man I fell in love with for the first time in my life.
The proud and strong Virdia.
...so I'd have something to remember him by.
Burn this sight...
Come here.
Yuna.

Lady Yuna, please stand beside the king.
Looking like this...?
Why?
What is it, Prince ...?
King Shura.
Certainly.
Alshe, bring it.
What's going on...?
This is for you, Yuna.
What?
This silver ring belongs with the Queen of Esfahan.

Yuna.
Would you be my wife?
What...?

What did he say...?
The King of Esfahan has just offered you a marriage proposal.
In front of his servants...
In front of the entire nation.
Are you out of your mind?
Prince?
No ...
It can't be happening.
You want me to...
This is a joke, right?

You...you can't ask me to be the wife of a King!! You just can't!!
I'm just a girl from another plane!
But...
Does this look like a joke?
I decide who is suitable to be the queen.
Prince...
...and you stood up for me when I was assaulted by Muzaharu's assassins.
First you fought a black panther in the dark desert...
Yuna, listen.
You saved my life twice.
Stay away from him!
It's hazy but I remember.
Right before I lost my consciousness.

At first I thought you're only a girl, weak and vulnerable. That you didn't have what it takes.
I was wrong. You didn't let fear hold you back.
With trembling hands, you took a hold of the sword and fought.
You gave your life to our cause.
Before I knew it, you became a beacon of light for Esfahan...
...and for me.
Is that how you see me, Prince?
Prince...
But I–
Yuna.
Your job as the Meshina is not done.

What...!?
So the Legend in Annatour says.
The Meshina will descend upon Esfahan again.
The prophet...
Is that true...?
I'm destined to come back?
Is that okay for me to...
...dream our future together?

But still...
I know. We live in different worlds.
So it wasn't an easy decision.
The road ahead won't be smooth. It's not without its obstacles.
But my feelings for you are true, Yuna.
You're the one I want.

I want to walk with you...
...fight together with you.
With pleasure.
No matter what fate has in store for us.
Prince...
So what's it going to be?
Can you take this ring and join the fight with me?
Can I? Can I really follow this path with him?
King Shura.
I'm still unsure but...

No matter what fate has in store for us.
Prince...
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...fight together with you.
With pleasure.

And...
Finally the day has come.
The Silver Star shines like no other.
1203 in Anna-tour calendar, Shura Sadeen was crowned as the 37th King of Esfahan.
That day I, Yuna Suzuki, made a vow to become the future Queen of Esfahan.
Lady Yuna!!
Congratula-tions, King Shura, Lady Yuna!!

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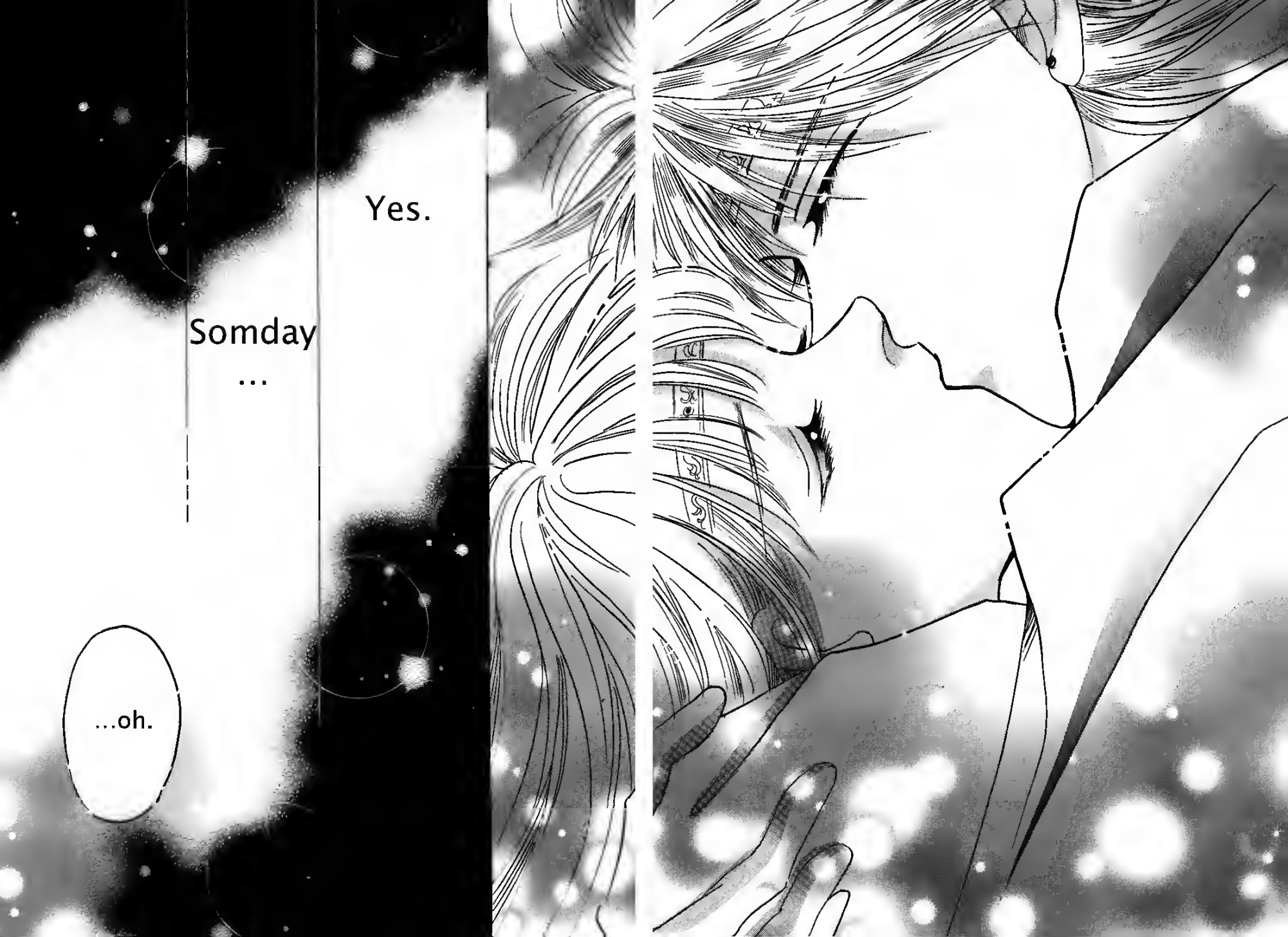
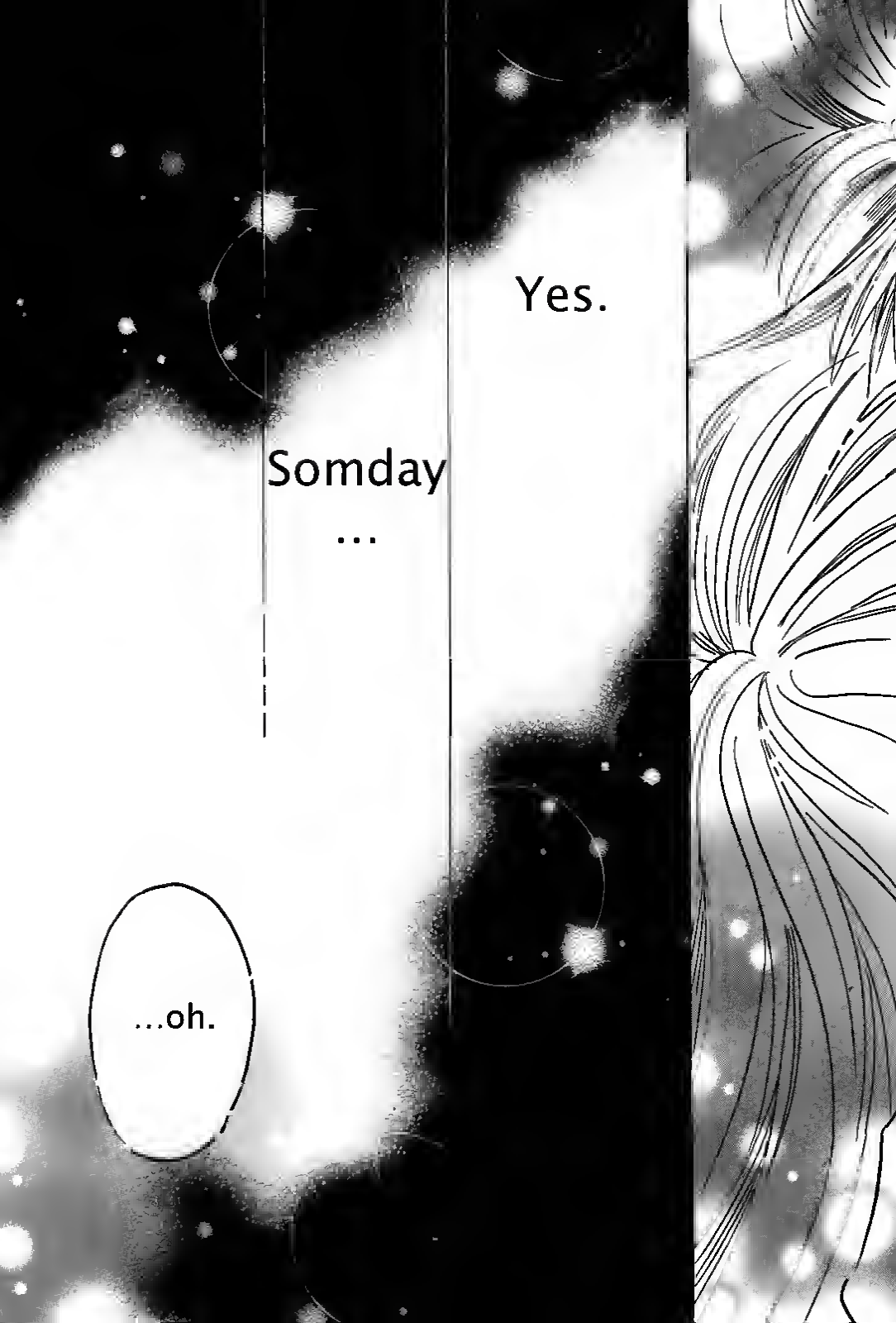
And...
Finally the day has come.
1203 in Anna-tour calendar, Shura Sadeen was crowned as the 37th King of Esfahan.
That day I, Yuna Suzuki, made a vow to become the future Queen of Esfahan.
The Silver Star shines like no other.

It's time to say good bye.
Yuna.
Come back.
You hear me? You'll come back to me.
Yes... Prince.
I will!
Farewell, the beauti-ful city of Esfahan.
The great sweep of the golden desert.

Everyone
I hold dear
to my heart.


Yes.
Somday
...
...oh.


Yes.
Somday
...
...oh.

When I came to myself...
...I found myself in the old library where I'd been before being teleported to Annatour.

It wasn't a figment of my dream!
It was real.

The funny thing was.
During the months I was in Annatour...
...only a couple of hours had passed in my world.
See you later!!
She seems to be doing fine.
Yes, indeed.
Is it me or has she changed lately?

I'm back to being a normal high school student in Japan.
But I'm not bored anymore.
I make each day count...
For I know someday I will be called back to the other world.

The star will take you to the land that lies far, far away in time and distance.

Let the Star guide, Chosen One.

If you hold those two precious things near to your heart, the Star will take you to the land.

Still vivid in my heart...

...is the prince standing in the sunlight.

I went back to the old library a couple of times after that.

The leather binding book was nowhere to be found.

Inside my desk sits...

...the silver ring of the Queen of Esfahan.

Still vivid in my heart...
...is the prince standing in the sunlight.
I went back to the old library a couple of times after that.
The leather binding book was nowhere to be found.
Inside my desk sits...
...the silver ring of the Queen of Esfahan.

The star will take you to the land that lies far, far away in time and distance.
Let the Star guide, Chosen One.
If you hold those two precious things near to your heart, the Star will take you to the land.

Until the day our next quest begins.
It's what connects us.
And the other one is...
...what we nurtured together amidst the war in Annatour.
You know what, Prince Shura?
...“those two precious things.”
Now I know what the voice meant by...
One is for “bravery”...
It's something I learnt from you.

You know what, Prince Shura?
And the other one is...
...what we nurtured together amidst the war in Annatour.
...“those two precious things.”
Now I know what the voice meant by...
One is for “bravery”...
It’s something I learnt from you.

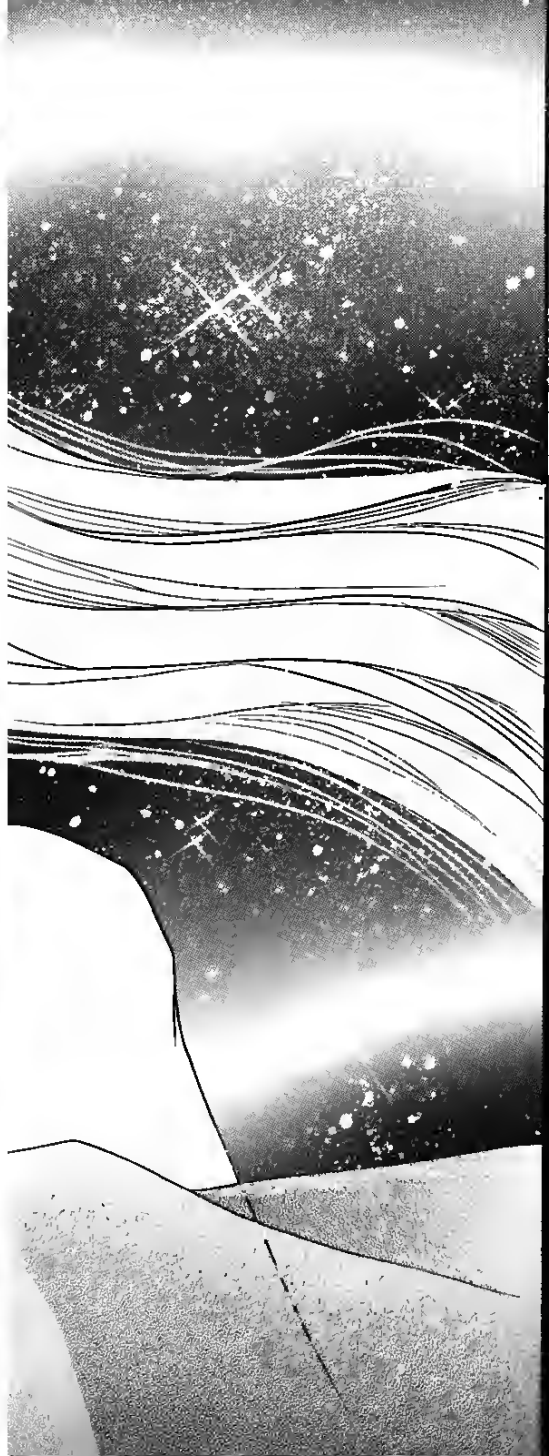
Until the day our next quest begins.
It's what connects us.

From the Meshina...
...to the Virdia of the distant land with love.

Someone's calling.
Yuna.
Yuna.
It's the part of me I left behind in the faraway land a year ago.
It's calling for me.
Yuna!!

The Legend in Annatour Chapter 2

The Shilver Meshina



Come back to me!!

Our second adventure is about to begin.

Come back to me!!
Our second adventure is about to begin.

The Legend in Annatour Chapter 2

The Shilver Meshina

Hamburgers
McDonald's
McDonald's
Yuna?
Yuna.
Hey!
Yuina Suzuki!
Huh...?
Is everything all right? You've been acting strange lately.
You look spaced out all the time.
Finally got your attention. It was like talking to a wall.
Oh, sorry!

Last fall when I was a freshman.
I am a normal high school student. Except I have the biggest secret.
Yuina Suzuki, age 17, second year at Seika Private Female High School.
I came across a book titled the Legend in Annatour in the corner of the old library.
By an odd twist of fate, I was drawn into another realm called Annatour.
The Star sent me on a mission to the desert kingdom of Esfahan.

And...
I fell in love with the king of Esfahan, Shura Sadeen, a.k.a the Golden Virdia.
I made a vow to become his wife, which means I'd be the future queen of Esfahan.
SUCK
ちゅー
Sounds more like a dream than reality.
To remind me it's real.
I have the Queen's ring.

That's not all.
I haven't been feeling quite my normal self lately. Could this be a sign?
Yuna?
Earth to Yuna!!
Not again.
You were drifting away.
Sorry!
Just between you and me. I always thought you were different.
No offense but you think I am different?
What?
Yeah?
Look...

But you're refusing to follow their steps by pursuing your dream of becoming an author. And you are calling me a weirdo?!
Your parents own a big hospital and you're set to get into medical school.
You, Miss Beauty with brains? The best and brightest student on campus?
So I want to be a writer, how does that make me weird?
Her name is Saya Makihara.
We ended up in the same class in the spring. We hit it off right away. We're besties.
You're gorgeous but could care less about it. Plus you're the most well-read person I know.
Oh...!
If anyone can understand what happened to me, it might be her...
Yuna!!
DA-BUMP

I need you back, Yuna!!
Yuna!!
Are you all right?
Prince!
CLANK
Annatour is calling!!
He's calling!!

What's wrong, Yuna?
Saya! Can I ask you a favor?
Suppose I'm going away for a while.
And if it's just for a couple of days, I'm staying in your home.
What's going on?
Where are you going, Yuna?
Sorry, Saya.
It's a long story.
But I promise I will tell you everything someday!

Yuna!
I know where to go.
The book hasn't shown itself to me the past year.
Now it's waiting on me again.
It's the same place as last year.
The old library is the portal into another realm—Annatour.

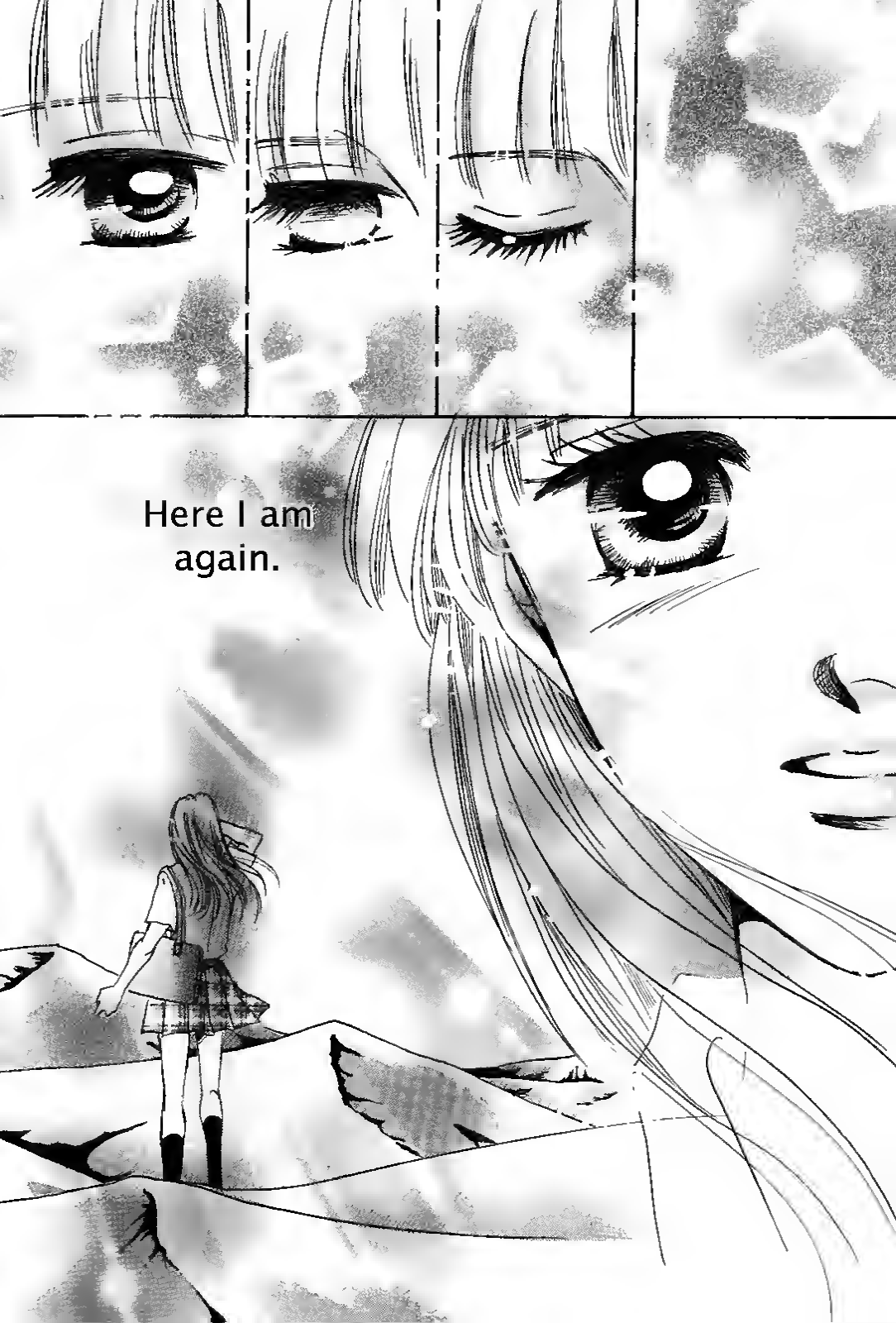
There it is...!!
The Legend in Annatour!!

I recognize the voice...
Child of the Stars.
Meshina... Chosen of the Silver Star.
Go to the land and rise for glory. Do what you must do.
The time has come.
FLASH
Fill the dark of night with the brilliance of your heart.

Meshina.
Do what you must do...

Meshina.

Do what you
must do...


Here I am
again.

My other world...
...I'm back.
There you are!!

Prince!!
Yuna!!
BRRR...

Just where I left you.
Prince...
It's Prince!
You came for me?

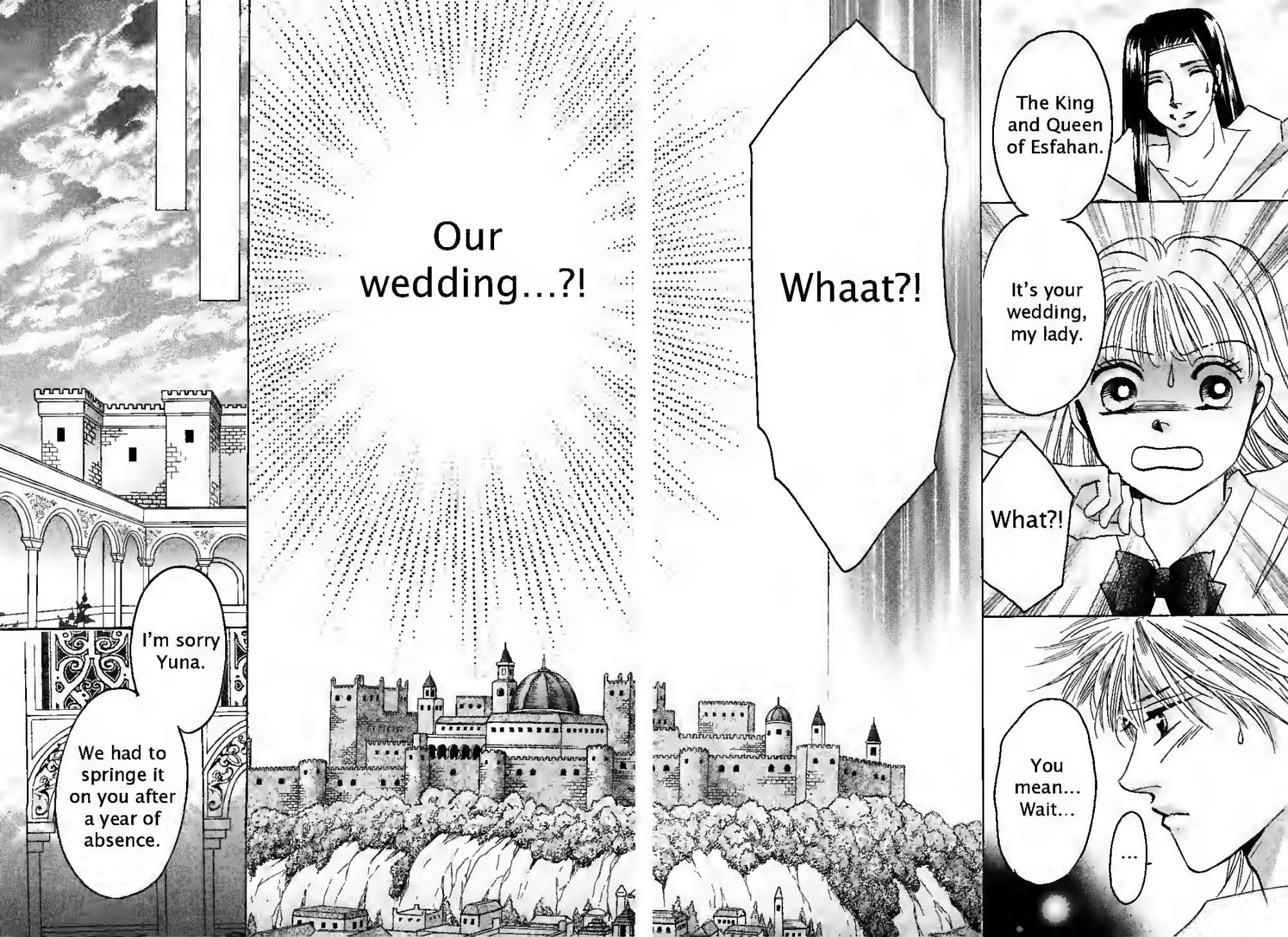
I've missed you...!!
It was a sign from our founder Romaira that the Meshina was coming.
A few days ago, I saw the Silver Star in the western sky.
The beating of your heart. I felt you getting closer and closer.
And...I felt it.
I heard your voice calling for me.
Prince ...
Me, too. I felt it, too.
Prince Shura!!
Come here, Yuna!!

A few days ago, I saw the Silver Star in the western sky.
It was a sign from our founder Romaira that the Meshina was coming.
And...I felt it.
The beating of your heart. I felt you getting closer and closer.
Me, too. I felt it, too.
Prince ...
I heard your voice calling for me.
Prince Shura!!
Come here, Yuna!!

I've missed you...!!

Finally back in his arms.
I've been waiting for you, Yuna.
That makes the two of us!
It was so hard.
No, it was harder for me!
Hate to lose.
GRR
No, it was even harder for me!!
Okay.
We can decide who had it the hardest later.
Alshe!!
Just in case you forgot, I'm here.
Maruta and Rita!!
Welcome back, Lady Yuna.

Alshe Lacid, the first retainer of the king of Esfahan.
Since the night the Silver Star appeared in the western sky, the whole country, from the Palace to every corner of the desert, has been waiting for you, Meshina.
Esfahan is going wild with the news!
We've come for you!
Maruta and Rita are the court ladies who helped me settle.
Whose wedding ...?
Yes, the palace is turned upside down in preparation for the wedding!!
Who else?
What?


I'm sorry Yuna.
We had to springe it on you after a year of absence.
Our wedding...?!
Whaat?!
The King and Queen of Esfahan.
It's your wedding, my lady.
What?!
You mean... Wait...
...

Whaat?!
The King and Queen of Esfahan.
It's your wedding, my lady.
What?!
You mean... Wait...
...

Our wedding...?!
I'm sorry Yuna.
We had to springe it on you after a year of absence.

But it's so sudden. What's the hurry?
Shocker!
I didn't think it'd be so soon.
Prince proposed to me a year ago and I said yes, but...
Changed into Esfahan clothes
That's all the more reason, my Lady.
And...I live on another plane. I don't know how long I can stay here.
We're only seventeen.

During the past year, the people of Esfahan have been growing anxious in your absence.
The Legend in Annatour foretells Meshina's return.
The Silver Meshina is the savior of our country Esfahan.
Alshe...
Radolf Kingdom?
The sense of imminent danger has been stalking through the country.
Especially with Radolf, a fast-growing western kingdom, posing a great threat to us.
Radolf is a powerful country in the northwest of Esfahan beyond the Mountains of Aristera.
...Radolf has had large troops deployed across the northern countries in pursuit of enlarging their realm.
Ever since the young and angry King Berugiriusu took the throne two years ago...

The mountains of Aristera mark the boundary between Esfahan and Radolf.
But it won't keep them at bay forever. It'll be easily penetrated.
Another war is about to erupt in Annatour...
As the tension mounted...
...the citizens coveted your return.
That was when...

YAY
...the Silver Star appeared in the west sky.
The courtyard!!
Love the sweet smell of orange.
Yuna.
It's been a year!
We're alone.
Come here and let me take a good look at you.

Prince...
So how are you?
I'm good! Thanks.
I went to school like a normal student does.
And
There's this girl in my class. She's my best friend.
Her name is Saya Makihara.
Saya.
Yes, she's an oddball but I can trust her.
You never told me about your parents.
What are they like?
HMM
Well...
Like normal.
I'm planning on letting her in on my secret.
Not my parents. No suree.
They won't believe me.

Today's cake is a success!
You could say he's a bit of a nerd.
My father is a professor at university. He can be terse and difficult at home.
Mom is your regular stay-home mom, chatty, funny and nosey.
Talking about my family, I can't help but feel the class divide.
Too ordinary.
Imagine what happens when they find out about my repeated visits to another dimension.
Since I'm their only daughter, they're very protective of me.
I was in Annatour for months.
So probably it's going to be okay...
Oh...! No worries.
The last time I was here, only a few hours had passed in my world.
Yuna.

It was the senior members' decision. The plan is to hold a wedding to make our people feel safe.
Prince ...
We don't have to do this. The wedding.
What?
Why?!
But I can talk to them.
That's what everyone wants to happen...
No, of course not!!
You regret choosing me as your wife?
You don't want it to happen...?!
You're the one I want.
I'm ready to have you anytime.

We can't have a wedding without their consent.
But you have a life in the other world. Your parents love you.
It's our future. Let's take it slow.
It's moving too fast. Even if it's just for appear-ances' sake.
Prince...
That seventeen is too young to be married in my country.
And that I was rushed to make the biggest decision of my life in my parents' absence.
Prince... you knew.

Prince Shura.
He cares.
He placed himself in my shoes.
Why?
...while I was away.
I was scared...
So when I heard about our wedding right after my return to Annatour, I was glad.
It threw me off at first but I was happy.
...and not going to see you again.
The thought of never being called back...
As each passing day, I grew more insecure.

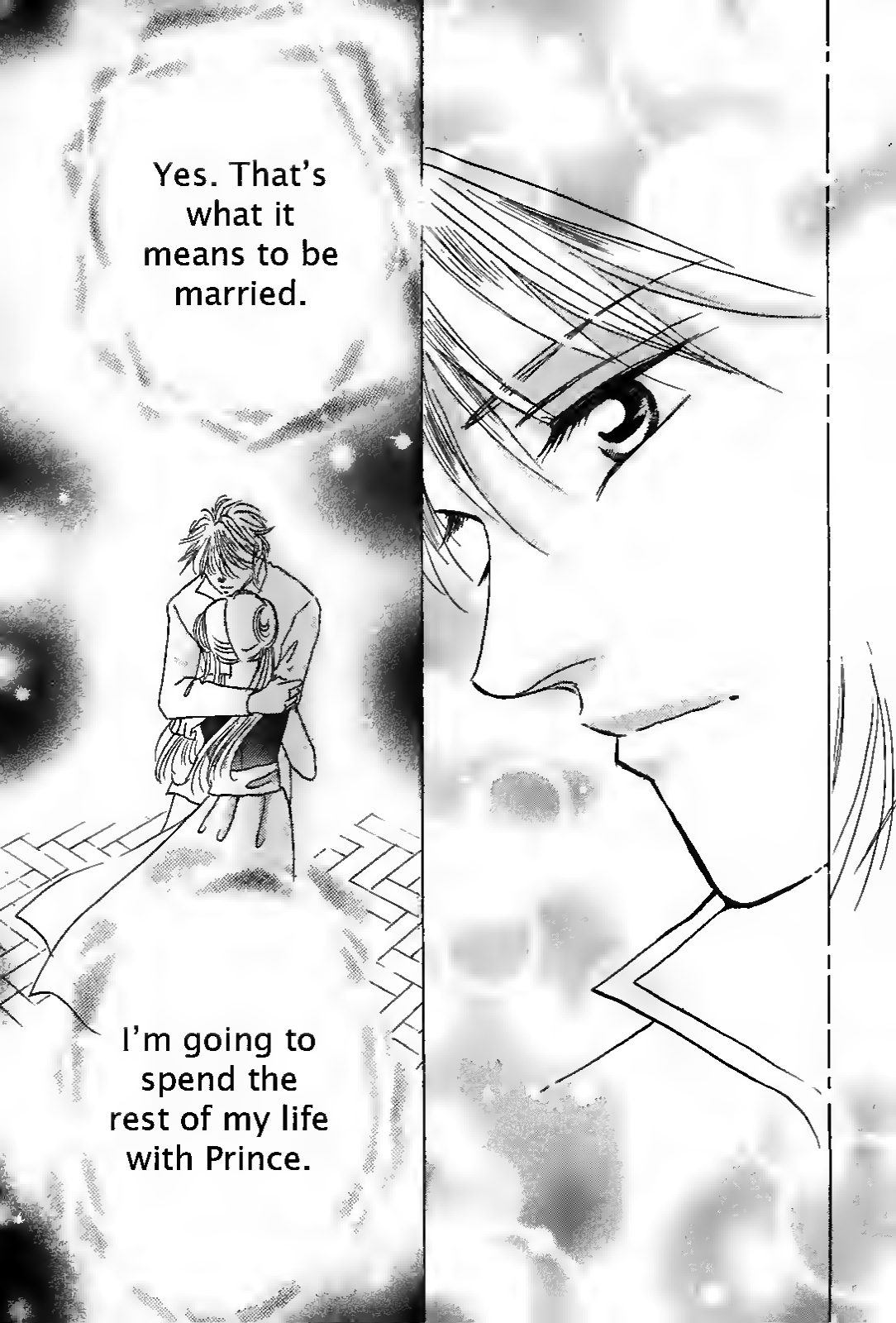
If you're really sure about this...
If the wedding can bring us closer to each other...
Even if it's for appear-ances' sake.
Yuna...
Not much? That's not true.
I'm not much but please let me be with you for better and for worse.

I'm so Joponese. It's the first phrase popped into my head.
Okay.
"I'm not much but please let me be your side."
OOPS
It's a Japanese thing. You wouldn't get it.
It's our traditional marriage greeting
I'm not much but please be with me.
My turn.
I'm being serious.
I'm laughing so hard I'm crying.
Anyway.
Prince Dorky. You haven't changed.
How long are you going to call me that?
I'm not a prince anymore.
SNICKER
No, Prince. That's not for you to say.
A HA HA
The greeting is for girls.
What's so funny?
What?

Shura!
You're not my retainer.
Just a simple Shura would suffice.
Shu...
Shu...
Shu...
Shu...
Okay... here goes.
Shu ..?
So how shall I call you?
Right! You're newly enthroned! You're the King now.
My bad.
Enough.
I approve.
PULL
It's too embar-rassing. I just can't!!
NOOO
Not after all this time!!
SIGH

Yes. That's what it means to be married.
I'm going to spend the rest of my life with Prince.
For the rest of my life...
You can call me Prince for the rest of your life.

You can call me Prince for the rest of your life.
For the rest of my life...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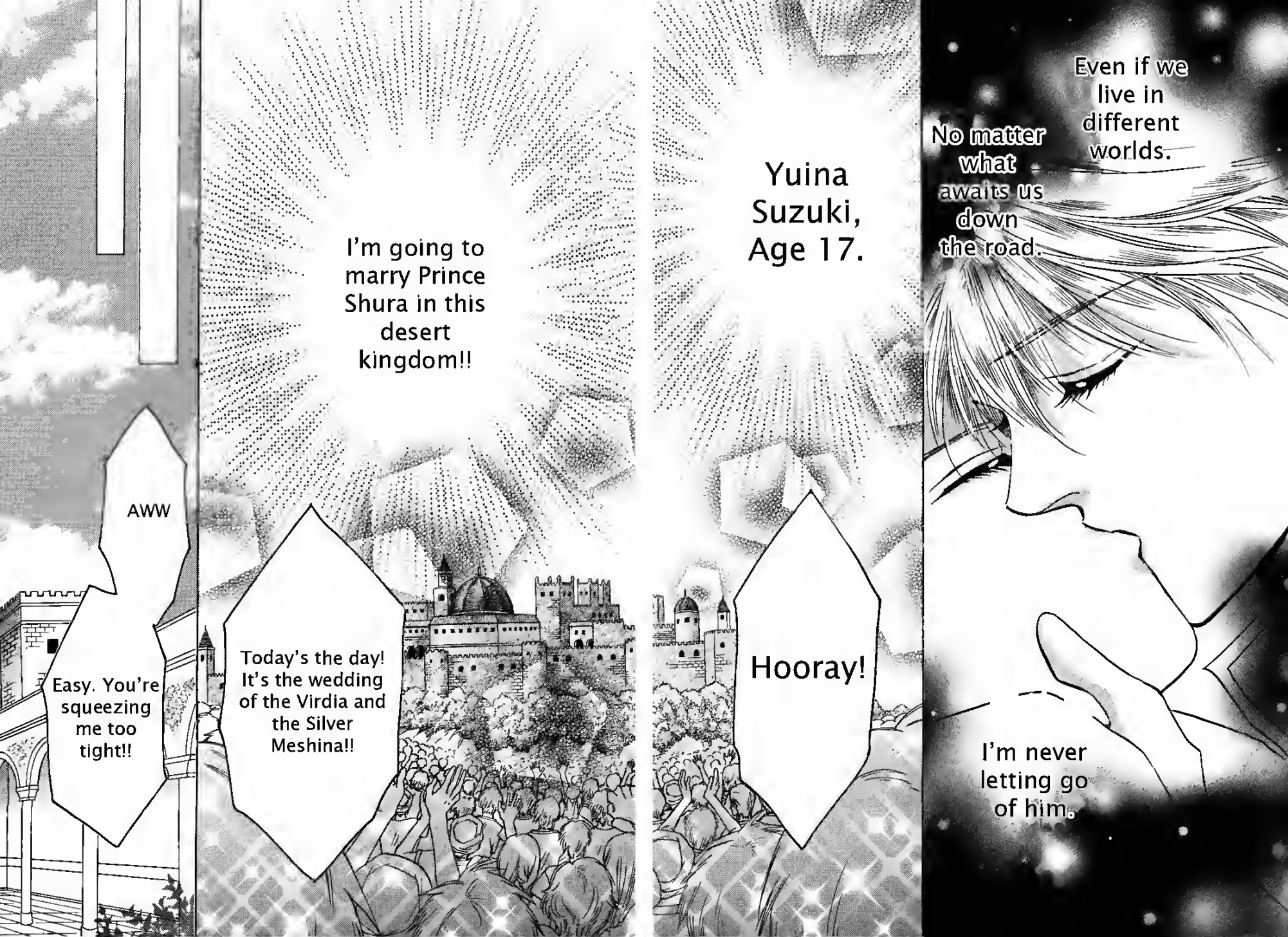
AWW
Easy. You're squeezing me too tight!!
I'm going to marry Prince Shura in this desert kingdom!!
Today's the day! It's the wedding of the Virdia and the Silver Meshina!!
Yuina Suzuki, Age 17.
Hooray!
Even if we live in different worlds.
No matter what awaits us down the road.
I'm never letting go of him.

Yuina Suzuki, Age 17.
Hooray!
Even if we live in different worlds.
No matter what awaits us down the road.
I'm never letting go of him.

I'm going to marry Prince Shura in this desert kingdom!!
AWW
Easy. You're squeezing me too tight!!
Today's the day! It's the wedding of the Virdia and the Silver Meshina!!

SQUEEZE
It's the most special day of a girl's life!!
Just take it!!!
Weighed down with stones.
Nice work, me!
Done.
You look beautiful, Lady Yuna!!

...you are the Queen of Esfahan!!
From the moment Prince Shura gave you that silver ring
Do I look like a Queen?
Of course you do!!
The silver ring of Queen.
Prince gave it to me when he proposed to me a year ago.
I had an inkling that I was coming back to Esfahan soon...
...so I had put it in my school bag just in case.
So glad I carried it with me.
ZSH
Lady Yuna.
The hall is ready for you.

Hail to the Virdia!! Hail to the Meshi-na!!
My life took a strange turn when I opened a book in the old library.Little did I know I was destined for this.
Me, an ordinary high school student, praised as a Savior.
As I stumbled my way through battles...
...I got close to Prince and to the people of this country.

I want to see where it takes me.
Prince Shura chose me. I will keep faith in that.

As long as the blessings of the sun and stars shine on your head...
...do you swear to share your life with Lady Yuna?
Yes, I do.
The 37th King of Esfahan Shura Sadeen.
Lady Yuna.
As long as the blessings of the sun and stars shine on your head...
...do you swear to share your life with Prince Shura?

Bring the proof of vow.
Yes, I do.

King Shura!!
!?

What is this folly!?
We're in the middle of a wedding!!
Please forgive our interruption!!
But our country is facing a great crisis!
What is it?
King!
A rider has arrived with a message from Sirusa, the western town near the border.
Radolf Kingdom crossed the border and entered Esfahan!!

Radolf Kingdom entered Esfahan!
The Border Guard of Sisura is trying to hold them off but...
The Radolf's Army is overwhelming in strength and numbers. Sirusa may fall into their hands!
The town of Sirusa...
King Shura!!

Alshe, the box.
Cer- tainly.
Yuna...
I know, Prince.
It's postponed indefinitely.

ROAR
October, 1204 in Annatour calendar. The army of Radolf Kingdom crossed the west border of Esfahan.
We must defend Sirusa from the invaders!!
Take heed!!
Call the soldiers to arms. We're heading for the western border!!
It's time to fight together!!

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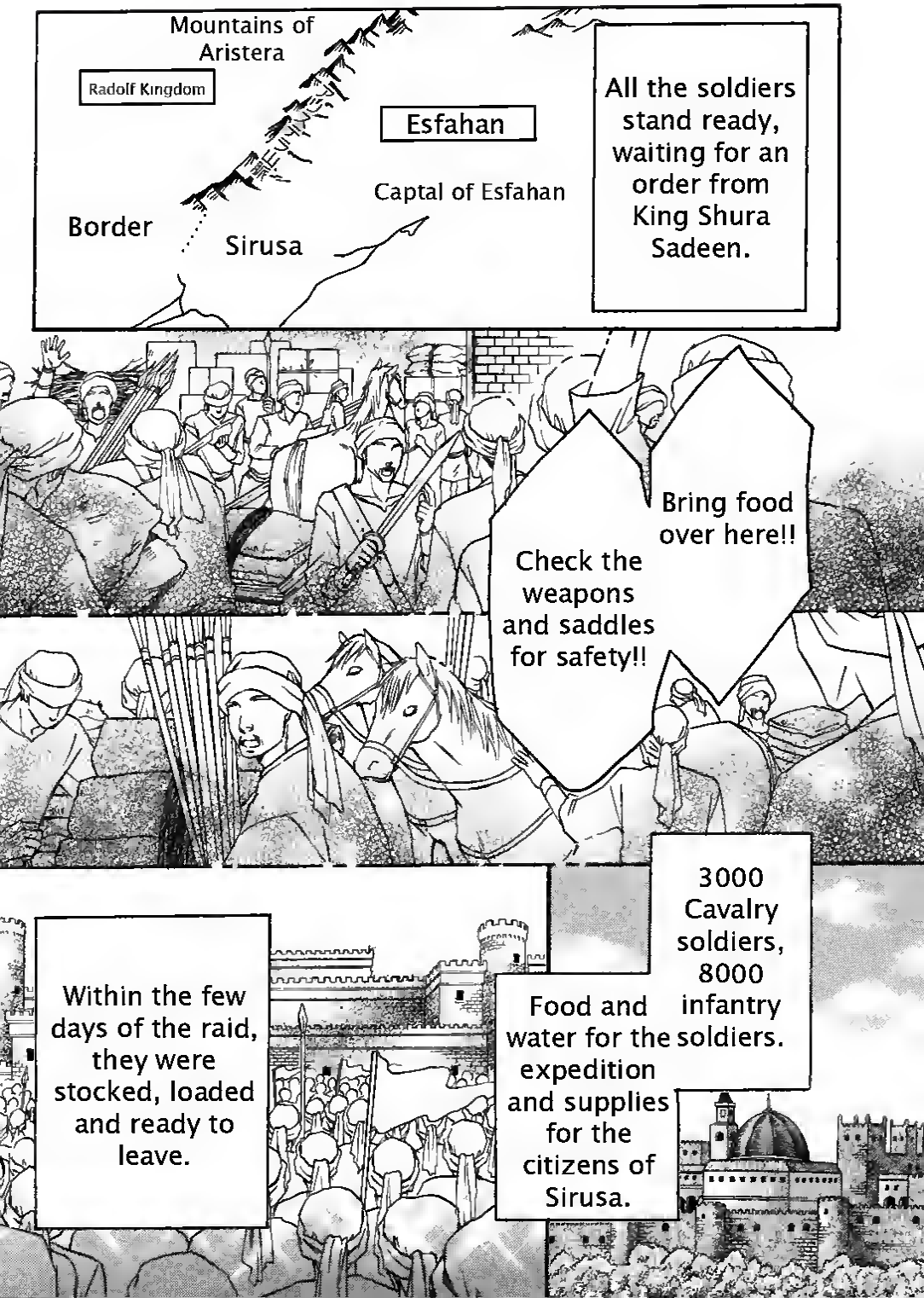

Mountains of Aristera
Radolf Kingdom
Esfahan
Captal of Esfahan
Border
Sirusa
All the soldiers stand ready, waiting for an order from King Shura Sadeen.
Bring food over here!!
Check the weapons and saddles for safety!!
3000 Cavalry soldiers, 8000 infantry soldiers.
Food and water for the expedition and supplies for the citizens of Sirusa.
Within the few days of the raid, they were stocked, loaded and ready to leave.

King Shura, Lady Yuna.
Please be safe!
Alshe. Look after the castle while I'm away.
The castle is in good hands, your majesty.
We're off!!
ROAR

WAAAH
AAAAH
King Shura, Lady Yuna. Be safe!!
Save Esfa-han!!
We're glad you came to King's aid.
Restore peace to our desert just like you did with Muradabird.
Lady Yuna.
Meshi-na!!

It'd be a lie if I say I don't doubt myself. I wish I could promise them a victory.
The wind of the desert and the people of Esfahan push my back.
Urging to move forward.
...to the Silver Meshina!!
From Yuina Suzuki, an ordinary student in Japan...

Here we are again, back in the battlefield.
HM?
I'm sorry, Yuna.
Prince!
Esfahan is now my country as well.
We didn't quite finish the ceremony but I've sworn my loyalty.
Besides.

Chosen One. Rise for glory.
Yes. I think the voice said...
The prophet of the Legend of Annatour?
The prophet spoke to me when I was teleported to this world.
Do what you must do.
Go and rise for glory.
What you must do...?
Yes.
At first I thought he was talking about our wedding.
But now I think I was called back for this.
When the Star led me here first...
For the war.
...there was a war raging throughout the desert thanks to the power-hungry King Muzaharu of Muradabird.

Maybe.
I'm summoned when Annatour is in trouble.
But it's like you're...
Hey! Don't look so worried.
When I was in Japan it was peaceful and safe.
But you were not there.
So what if there is another war in the stiflingly hot desert?
I'm so much happier when you're near me, Prince!!

...as long as the blessings of the sun and stars shine onto us.
We made a vow to be together...

Sirusa, a town near the western border of Esfahan.
Captain! The Radolf Army is edging toward the stronghold.
We cannot hold it anymore!
Stand guard!!

But Captain ...
Too many are wounded. If we continue...
It is up to us the border guards to hold the forte!!
Once our stronghold falls, our enemies will be all over the town.
Captain Nadeel!!
WAAAHH
There're millions of them!!
It's over!!
This is it...!
Behind you! Radolf's sent more troops.

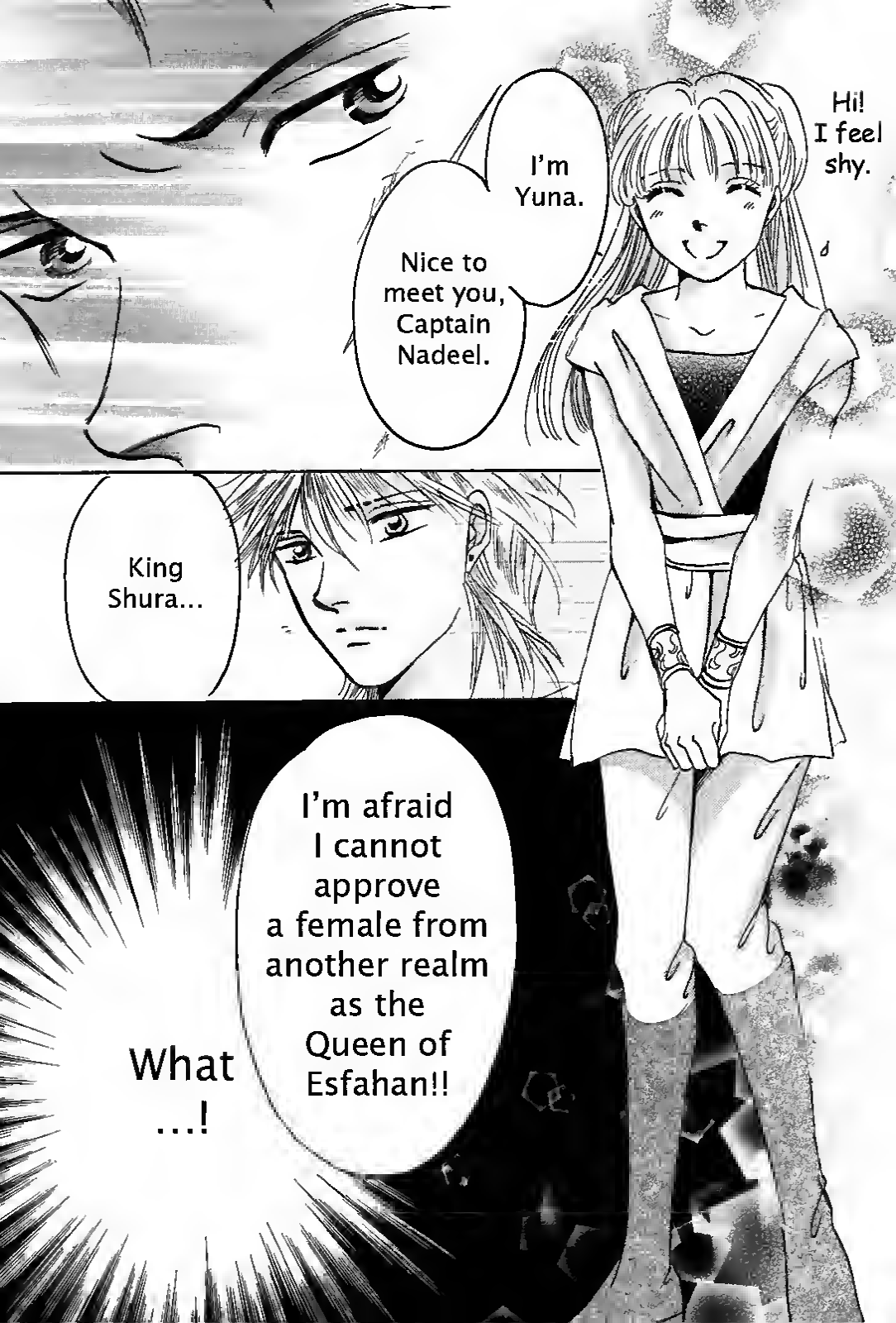
No...
!!
They're not enemies...
That's the banner of Esfahan!!
They came for us!!
Reinforce-ments arrived from the capital!!
King Shura!!

WAAH
That's King Shura!!
King led his army to assist us!
They're retreating!
Lady Yuna, look!

Prince!!
The Radolf Army returned to their country to regroup.
The arrival of the reinforce-ments staggered the Radolf Army.
In a matter of hours, Esfahan recaptured the town of Sirusa from Radolf.
Esfahan's troops didn't lose time to chase the invaders off to the border as Radolf's defenses crumbled.

Good to see you again!!
Your assistance was crucial to the victory, your majesty!
Nadeel!!
It's you!!
Commander Arak, the former captain of the unit, died an honorable death in battle.
So the vice commander, a youngling like me, was placed in command.

You successfully thwarted their attacks with a small number of unit.
That's an outstanding victory.
Nadeel Sulfan, you're known to be the most fearless in the west.
Commander Arak is dead...
Yuna, this is Nadeel Sulfan.
We were like brothers growing up in the Palace.
How gracious of you.
To regard me as your brother!
I was just an orphan until the former King Elle Sadeen took me in.
I was allowed to stay as King Shura's playmate.
Then we're like brothers.
Nadeel.
This is my future wife, Yuna.
DA-BUMP


Hi! I feel shy.
I'm Yuna.
Nice to meet you, Captain Nadeel.
King Shura...
I'm afraid I cannot approve a female from another realm as the Queen of Esfahan!!
What ...!

What's going on...?
I know protesting against your decision could get me in prison for contempt.
However I cannot hide my feelings. If I am punished for it, so be it!!
Nadeel ...!
Good day.
He's opposed...!
Prince Shura...

I had no idea...
Don't take it personal.
Some remain adamant. They still have doubts about you.
The people of Esfahan accepted me because they believed I was the prophesied one.
The Legend in Annatour is a book in which the founder Romaira recorded his prophesies.
Don't mind him, Yuna.
...the real reason why Prince rushed our wedding.
I wonder if that is...
Not everyone is happy to welcome a complete stranger as their queen.
Of course, there are bound to be naysayers.
Prince...

I didn't choose you because you were the Meshina.
It doesn't matter where you came from. I chose you for who you are, Yuna.
Prince Shura...
Give them time. They'll come around.

You're so kind, Prince.
We're leaving for the city of Sirusa to conduct patrols to gauge the damage.
You're coming.
Yes, your majesty!
I don't care what others have to say about
If that's how you feel.

Because I–
Oh, no...
I can't believe my eyes.

Not dolls lying on the ground.
They're bodies!
All hell let loose after Radolf troops got past the border
Horrible ...!!
A few days ago, they hit the town in the midnight.
Captain Nadeel...

Radolf set the whole town on fire and went after the fleeing citizens.
They slayed everyone in sight, women and children, those who didn't know how to fight back.
They used force against innocent civilians...
...Why?

It was a peaceful town until it was raided by the Radolf Army.
What drove them to do this?
They lived a simple but happy life.
We were born in different countries but we're all made of flesh and blood!
We're all humans!!
How can you do this to another human being?!
Yuna.

The Meshina, Chosen of the Silver Star.
The Daughter of the Stars.
Go and rise for glory. Do what you must do.
This is...war.
This is war.
Raise your face and burn the sight into your memory.

This is war.
Raise your face and burn the sight into your memory.

The Meshina, Chosen of the Silver Star.
The Daughter of the Stars.
Go and rise for glory. Do what you must do.
This is...war.

Fill the dark of night with the brilliance of your heart.
What Romaira's words meant...
...I still don't know.
To be continued in the Legend in Annatour volume 3

أساطير

The Legend in Annatour 2

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